

MONROE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 30, 2015

The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (MCLA) Advisory Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 in Suite 104 of the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) located at 2796 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Susan Matthews at 9:02 AM. Present and answering roll call in addition to Vice Chairman Susan Matthews were Mitchell Cook, Bryan Green and Barbara Neal. Chairman Susan Sprunt was absent. Also present were Executive Director Mark Rosch, Office Manager Dina Gambuzza, and Counsel Ginny Stones.

The first item was additions and deletions to the agenda. There were none. Mr. Green made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval of the August 26, 2015 meeting minutes. Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Green seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval to accept a donation of Block 4, Lot 1, Rainbow Beach on Big Torch Key for conservation. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property is a 5,500 square foot lot designated Tier 1 – Natural Area, zoned Native Area (NA), and consisting of mangrove vegetation. The property owner has offered to donate the property for conservation. Mr. Green made a motion to approve accepting the property as a donation. Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval to purchase property for conservation. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee regarding the following proposed acquisitions:

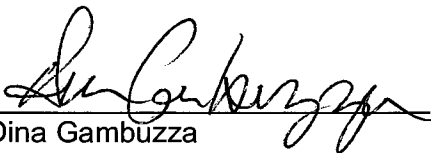
- a) Block 7, Lots 29 and 30, Harris Ocean Park Estates on Key Largo. The subject property totals 10,300 square feet and consists of tropical hardwood hammock vegetation. The lots are zoned Native Area (NA) and is designated Tier 1 – Natural Area. The owners have agreed to sell the property for a price of \$10,423. Mr. Cook made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the \$10,423 price and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.
- b) Tracts WP and WQ, Pine Key Acres on Big Pine Key. The subject property totals 2.06 acres and consists of mostly tropical hardwood hammock vegetation with some hammock/freshwater wetland mix. The parcels are zoned Area of Critical County Concern (ACCC) and designated Tier 1 – Natural Area. The owner has agreed to sell the property for a price of \$40,000. Mr. Green made a motion to approve purchasing the property for a price of \$40,000 and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.
- c) Lot 36 Perez on Sugarloaf Key. The subject property is 15,000 square feet and consists of freshwater wetland and exotic vegetation. The site is zoned Improved Subdivision (IS) and designated Tier 3 – Infill Area. The owners have agreed to sell the property for a price of \$8,823. Ms. Neal made a motion to approve purchasing the property for a price of \$8,823 and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was the Executive Director's report. Mr. Rosch distributed information and reported on recent events including the following:

- a) Kim Nystrom retired on September 18, 2015. Dina Gambuzza has replaced Ms. Nystrom as the Office Manager.
- b) For the fiscal year ending September 30, MCLA closed 51 transactions, acquiring 71 parcels of conservation land totaling 16.8 acres at a cost of \$1.8 million. These statistics do not include MCLA's role in assisting the State in acquiring the Johnson property.
- c) Mr. Rosch discussed the status of MCLA's FY 2015 budget and the new budget for FY 2016.
- d) Mr. Rosch discussed creating a new land acquisition position to increase MCLA's land acquisition effort. He discussed the scenario of him vacating the executive director position and moving into the new position. The Committee agreed to serve as the group to shortlist the applicants for the executive director position, if necessary.
- e) The County will be lobbying for the adoption of the Florida Keys Environmental Stewardship bill again in the 2016 legislative session. Mr. Rosch reviewed the draft bill with the Committee.
- f) Mr. Rosch discussed the 2014 Florida Keys Annual Report presented by the Department of Economic Opportunity to the Florida Cabinet yesterday. The Cabinet will initiate rulemaking to adopt a hotel unit allocation program intended to assist in retiring residential lots in the Keys.
- g) Two officials at Carlisle Development Group are the subject of federal charges of theft. The charges do not involve Carlisle's two affordable housing developments in the Keys, Meridian West Apartments and Sea Grape Apartments.
- h) The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 9:00 AM at the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) in Suite 104 located at 2796 Overseas Highway. Mr. Cook, Mr. Green, Ms. Matthews, and Barbara Neal said they would be available to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Prepared by:

  
Dina Gambuzza  
Office Manager



Approved by the Advisory Committee on October 28, 2015.